

HOUSE BILL NO. 503

INTRODUCED BY J. BALYEAT

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING THAT IN A GENERAL PARTISAN ELECTION, THE
5 NAME OF A CANDIDATE WHO HAS BEEN NOMINATED BY MORE THAN ONE PARTY MUST APPEAR ON
6 THE GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT ONCE FOR EACH PARTY THAT THE CANDIDATE IS REPRESENTING;
7 PROVIDING THAT THE VOTES RECEIVED BY A MULTIPARTY CANDIDATE AT A GENERAL ELECTION BE
8 TOTALED AND THAT THE AGGREGATE NUMBER OF VOTES RECEIVED BE USED IN DETERMINING THE
9 WINNER; AMENDING SECTION 13-12-203, MCA; AND REPEALING SECTION 13-10-303, MCA."

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11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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13 NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Counting votes for candidate nominated by more than one party.** In
14 a general election, votes for an individual whose name appears on the ballot more than once, as provided in
15 13-12-203, including votes cast for the individual as a write-in candidate, must be totaled. The aggregate number
16 of votes received by the individual, irrespective of party affiliation, must be used in determining the winner of the
17 election.

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19 **Section 2.** Section 13-12-203, MCA, is amended to read:
20 **"13-12-203. Printing of candidate's name and party designation on ballot.** (1) (a) Except as
21 provided in 13-10-209 ~~and 13-10-303~~, in partisan elections, candidates' names ~~shall~~ must be printed under the
22 title of the office sought, with the name of the party, in not more than three words, or "Independent" printed
23 opposite the name.

24 (b) In a general partisan election, if an individual is a candidate representing more than one party, the
25 individual's name must appear once for each party for which the individual is the nominated candidate.

26 (2) In nonpartisan elections, the candidates' names ~~shall~~ must be printed under the title of the office
27 sought, with no description or designation printed with the name unless partisan and nonpartisan offices appear
28 on the same ballot. In ~~such a~~ that case, the names of nonpartisan candidates ~~shall~~ must have printed with them
29 the words "Nominated without party designation"."

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1 NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Repealer.** Section 13-10-303, MCA, is repealed.

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3 NEW SECTION. **Section 4. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an
4 integral part of Title 13, chapter 15, part 2, and the provisions of Title 13, chapter 15, part 2, apply to [section 1].

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6 NEW SECTION. **Section 5. Coordination instruction.** If House Bill No. 25 and [this act] are both
7 passed and approved, then House Bill No. 25 is void.

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